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sic sense of *liberal* as broadening and liberating. And few Chinese today have much acquaintance with this Confucian tradition.

"For most of this century," de Bary observes, "educated Chinese have learned nothing about Confucianism except the [Communist] Party's negative characterizations of it as 'reactionary' and 'feudal.' Quite apart from the closing of schools for years during the Cultural Revolution, and the turning over of instruction to workers, peasants, soldiers, and Red Guards, only a few college majors in classical studies have read any of the Confucian texts, while all students have been compelled to read the 'classics' of Marx, Lenin, Stalin, and Mao." Some Confucian traditions—"a certain reciprocity, mutual support, and give-and-take within the family"—may have survived in the home, but their carry-over to the world of politics and government is doubtful.

"Only with the reinstatement of some genuine Confucian culture, and the reading of basic texts in the school and college curriculum—which would require the retraining of a whole generation of teachers—could Confucian learning be articulated to the level of literate discourse so that it could have any significant influence on educated Chinese today," de Bary declares. Unless that should happen, he concludes, Beijing's new Confucianism "would amount to little more than mass indoctrination in official formulae, as mechanical and meaningless as the failed slogans of Maoism."

### ***Should Japan Rearm?***

"East Asian Security: The Case for Deep Engagement" by Joseph S. Nye, Jr., and "East Asian Security: The Pentagon's Ossified Strategy" by Chalmers Johnson and E. B. Keehn, in *Foreign Affairs* (July–Aug. 1995), 58 E. 68th St., New York, N.Y. 10021.

Fifty years after the end of World War II, Japan remains in effect a U.S. military protectorate. Johnson, author of *Japan: Who Governs?* (1995), and Keehn, a lecturer in Japanese politics at Cambridge University, argue that with the Cold War over and the yen so strong that the 45,000 U.S. troops stationed there "cannot afford a bowl of noodles," it is time for Japan to become a "nor-

mal" country and provide for its own security.

There has been a "profound shifting around the world, particularly in East Asia, from military to economic power," the two specialists argue. Tokyo welcomes the continued U.S. military presence as a short-term convenience, they assert, while it consolidates its economic ascendancy "in preparation for the day when the United States can no longer support"—financially or politically—its military forces in East Asia. The U.S. security guarantee, moreover, reduces the incentive for Japan to revise its constitution, which renounces war as a sovereign right of the nation, and to develop into a responsible "ordinary country" providing for its own defense, and helping to keep the peace abroad.

Nye, assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, insists—as a Pentagon report did earlier this year—that the presence of about 100,000 American troops in Japan and the rest of East Asia (including 36,000 in South Korea) is vital to the region's security. He calls the U.S. troops "a force for stability, reducing the need for arms buildups, and deterring the rise of hegemonic forces. . . . How the international system adjusts to the rise of Chinese power, the eventual rejuvenation of Russia, the evolving role of Japan, and the tensions on the Korean peninsula will be critically important to the future of East Asian stability and prosperity."

Japanese analysts fear, among other things, the international ripple effects of rearmament. The specter of a revived Japanese militarism, for example, might prompt neighboring nations, from Malaysia to China, to build up their own military forces. Japan, Nye notes, remains committed to the alliance, albeit one "tailor[ed] to the post-Cold War period." A 1994 report by a nongovernmental commission in Japan urged that the nation assume a larger international role, including greater participation in UN peacekeeping operations. Until a few years ago that was unthinkable, Nye points out. But in recent years, Japan has joined in international peacekeeping efforts in Cambodia, Mozambique, and Rwanda. Although Japanese attitudes toward the nation's proper role are thus evolving, it does not appear that Japan is going to become a "normal" country anytime soon.